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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-15

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 044-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0

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The information in this report is current to 2022-02-15 at 1230 hours.

The format of this Situation Report delineates between police information and information gathered through open sources. Media and social media information has been incorporated in this report towards developing all-source intelligence in support of providing greater context, and which may identify indicators, ideologies, and attitudes that could motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours.

INVOCATION OF EMERGENCIES ACT

- On 2022-02-14, Prime Minister TRUDEAU invoked the Emergencies Act to manage the ongoing blockade and protests. The invocation of the Act will require crowdfunding platforms and payment service providers to register with FINTRAC; allow the RCMP to enforce provincial offences and municipal by-laws; and designate areas where assemblies may not occur. The government noted that owners of commercial motor vehicles being used in the blockade were subject to having their insurance cancelled and their corporate accounts frozen. Tow truck operators may also be compelled to tow vehicles. The government is not deploying the military.

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OTTAWA: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

- The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reports that 357 trucks remain in Ottawa's downtown core ("Red Zone").
- OPP reporting indicates that some truckers who wanted to leave the intersection at Rideau and Sussex Streets were boxed in by other trucks and prevented from doing so.
- OPP observed residents angry and yelling at the protestors and telling them to leave.
- An unspecified number of trucks were repositioned from surrounding streets to Wellington Street.
- Containers for cash donations were observed at various tents at the blockade.
- OPP noted that some protestors are angry at organizers for not properly distributing cash donated to the blockade.

OTTAWA: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

- Media reporting indicates that the City of Ottawa has been granted an injunction to enforce noise and idling by-laws. The injunction will also apply to federal property in Ottawa.
- Open source research has identified the following:
 - A video press conference featuring [REDACTED], who identified himself as a spokesman for the blockade. [REDACTED] claimed that the invocation of the Emergencies Act was unnecessary and that they would actively argue against the measure being passed.
 - A video interview of Randy HILLIER in which he claims that Canada has embarked on a "dark and dangerous path"; that the Prime Minister is using the War Measures Act against a peaceful civilian population engaged in "dissent over public policy". He implies that the government will deploy the military, and will not rescind the powers afforded the authorities by the measures.

The War Measures Act was superseded by the Emergencies Act in 1985.

- A video by the CRACKPOT FARMER in which he states that protestors believe that the weapons seized at Coutts were planted to cause trouble and justify the use of additional force against the

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protestors. He claims that trucks pulling back from the Coutts border are re-grouping based on this belief.

He also discusses blockade funding and suggests that donors find alternate ways to provide funding through emails and credit cards to by-pass the banks and mitigate the risk of having accounts blocked.

He further claims that the government is waging war against the protestors by invoking the Emergencies Act.

- A video statement by [REDACTED] in which he claims that organizers received information from multiple “believed reliable sources” that the weapons in a tractor-trailer stolen from Peterborough on 2022-02-13 may be planted around the blockade in Ottawa to discredit the protest and to use as a pretext for forcibly removing the protestors. He claims that they are making the information public out of a concern for public safety.
- A video statement featuring [REDACTED], and others who identify themselves as:



“[REDACTED]” – working with the “operations group” making sure that the truck drivers have what they need to stay comfortable



“[REDACTED]” – interpreting into French

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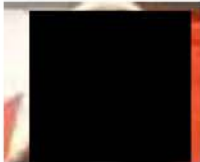
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“ [REDACTED] ” – alternate interpreter



“ [REDACTED] ”

In the video:

- [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] label the invocation of the Emergencies Act a scare tactic.
 - “ [REDACTED] ” provides a financial update. She claims that veterans have been providing direct donations to tide them over while they work to free the donated funds that are frozen. She also identifies the FAMILY EXPRESS SUPPORT FUND that is providing financial support to specific drivers or their families from a designated donor.
 - [REDACTED] says that they have reached a tipping point where they need to be even more unified. He calls for Canada to unite and says that this is just the beginning. He calls on people to go to the borders and cities, including Ottawa. He also tells people at the blockade at Coutts not to leave, as help would be coming from “the south”.
 - “ [REDACTED] ” states that the protestors will stand together to get back the freedoms that they never should have lost.
- Media reporting indicates that, for some protestors, their presence at the Ottawa blockade is directed by God and a religious duty. One organizer is quoted stating that she had surrendered to the Lord and was willing to give up her life for the freedom movement. She is further cited as saying that ending vaccine requirements is only the first step in the freedom movement, and that fighting climate change-related mandates will be the next step.

The report also cites [REDACTED], a former Conservative MP from Kitchener, leading protestors in services to pray “for a country that [...] has become unmoored from its Christian foundation.”¹

¹ “For many inside the Freedom Convoy, faith fuels the resistance”, CBC News (2022-02-15), <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/faith-convoy-truckers-1.6350538> (accessed 2022-02-15)

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TORONTO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) continues to monitor for potential upcoming protests.

TORONTO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- TPS continues to monitor for relevant open source information and reports that the focus appears to be more on Ottawa.

AMBASSADOR BRIDGE:

- The Ambassador Bridge has fully re-opened and nearby routes are clear and controlled by police.

BLUE WATER BRIDGE:

- All vehicles blocking Highway 402 have been moved. The highway is clear.

PEACE BRIDGE:

- Police reporting indicates that the QEW and Peace Bridge remain open and traffic is normal.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (CORNWALL):

- No new information.

LANSDOWNE BRIDGE:

- No events at this port of entry.

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NORTHWEST REGION:

- OPP reporting has identified a potential blockade at the Nipigon River Bridge scheduled for 2022-02-26.

ONTARIO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The OPP continues to monitor for relevant information regarding local protests in OPP jurisdiction.

ONTARIO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- No significant developments.

OTHER

- On 2022-02-14, RCMP in Alberta investigating an organized group within the protest at the Coutts border executed a search warrant that resulted in the arrest of 11 individuals and the seizure of long guns, handguns, a machete, body armour, ammunition and high capacity magazines. Members of the group had reportedly indicated an intent to use force against the police if they attempted to disrupt the blockade.

On its Twitter page, the CANADIAN ANTI-HATE NETWORK has posted an image of one of the protective vests that were seized, which has DIAGOLON patches on the shoulder straps. The caption identifies DIAGOLON as an accelerationist movement. DIAGOLON was previously reported in the *Project HENDON SITREPs 037-2022 dated 2022-02-08 and 040-2022 dated 2022-02-11*.

An image of a second vest with what appears to be a washed-out American flag and an INFIDEL patch on it was also posted. The caption on the post notes that INFIDEL is a prominent Islamophobic militia and biker-style hate group.

- Online information purported to include the data hacked from GiveSendGo indicates that the original GoFundMe fundraiser was cancelled because [REDACTED], the organizer, stated that no truck drivers participating in the convoy and blockade should expect any financial support, which violated GoFundMe's policies.

The information indicates that the following Ontario-based individuals are among those who donated more than \$5000 to the blockade through GiveSendGo:

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- [REDACTED] (Lake Simcoe North Shore) \$40,000 email: [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] (Lake Simcoe, Southeast Shore) \$20,000
- [REDACTED] (Kanata) \$7,000
- [REDACTED] (Oxford) \$6,000
- [REDACTED] (St. Mary's) \$5,400

Donors elsewhere in Canada include:

- [REDACTED] (Sussex, New Brunswick) [REDACTED] appears to have been the second-largest donor, contributing \$75,000.

Media reporting indicates that [REDACTED] confirmed his donation to journalists, and indicated that he had been at the blockade in Ottawa.²

- [REDACTED] (Canada) \$25,000
- [REDACTED] (Langley Township, BC) \$18,000
- [REDACTED] (Calgary) \$15,000
- [REDACTED] (Swift Current) \$15,000
- [REDACTED] (Canada) \$5,500
- [REDACTED] (Lloydminster) \$5,100

Media reporting regarding donor information from GiveSendGo that was hacked and made public indicates that most of the funds raised in support of the convoy and blockade were from foreign sources. More than 52 percent of the total raised was from Canadian donors, representing 39 percent of all donations. American donations totalled 44 percent of the amount raised and represented almost 56 percent of all donations.³

² N.B. business owner says he donated \$75,000 to Freedom Convoy, *CBC News* (2022-02-14), <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/nb-sussex-corner-business-convoy-donation-1.6351642> (accessed 2022-02-15)

³ "Hacked convoy data shows more than half of donations came from U.S.", *CBC News* (2022-02-14), <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/convoy-protest-donations-data-1.6351292> (accessed 2022-02-14)

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	Total donations \$USD	Number of donations	Average donation \$USD
Canada	\$4.31M	36.2K	\$119.09
USA	\$3.63M	51.67K	\$70.19
Great Britain	\$77.07K	1.83K	\$42.09
Australia	\$33.73K	588	\$57.37
Germany	\$24.97K	300	\$83.24
Switzerland	\$11.15K	123	\$90.65
Netherlands	\$10.66K	209	\$51
France	\$8.5K	130	\$65.39
Cayman Islands	\$7.6K	9	\$844.44
Denmark	\$7.25K	120	\$60.44
Ireland	\$7.23K	162	\$44.6
Norway	\$7.01K	125	\$56.05
New Zealand	\$5.98K	103	\$58.04
Sweden	\$5.77K	143	\$40.33
Israel	\$4.23K	59	\$71.66
Singapore	\$3.36K	24	\$140
Spain	\$3.35K	62	\$54.06
Czechia	\$3.14K	69	\$45.55
Italy	\$3.1K	78	\$39.72
Belgium	\$3K	53	\$56.64

Image source: Open source ⁴

- The Bitcoin wallet for the blockade can no longer be accessed online.
- Only two marine vessels on the east coast appear to be using identifiers related to the freedom movement.

Analytical Comment: *It is unknown whether this information is indicative of a lack of support for the freedom movement amongst mariners, or whether it reflects seasonal influences on the maritime industry. It is possible that the threat of maritime port blockages may be mitigated at least until the sailing season opens.*

⁴ "Hacked convoy data shows more than half of donations came from U.S.", *CBC News* (2022-02-14), <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/convoy-protest-donations-data-1.6351292> (accessed 2022-02-14)

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ASSESSMENT

The ongoing freedom movement protests and blockades is ideologically motivated and represents a long-term potential threat to public order and public safety in Canada.

Some protestors and organizers at the Ottawa blockade are framing the invocation of the Emergencies Act as an authoritarian measure by the government against its peaceful civilian population. Some participants and organizers of the ongoing blockade have repeatedly stated that they are in a state of war against the government. A recurring theme is that of having been infiltrated and of false flag operations against them by the government. Inflammatory rhetoric by some elected officials, such as [REDACTED], is likely to intensify, reinforce, and lend credibility to such views.

The reported conservative religious beliefs of some protestors and supporters are indicative of religiously-motivated extremism where participation in the ongoing protests is viewed as a religious duty or crusade. Expressing a willingness to die for this movement suggests that some holders of these religious beliefs are unlikely to be dissuaded from their current actions by secular authorities or any authoritative figure whose views do not align with their own. Such beliefs could also motivate these individuals to take extreme action against the police, as they may view their personal safety as less important than the greater cause.

The DIAGOLON and INFIDEL badges on the body armour seized at Coutts, Alberta; the presence of DIAGOLON supporters at the Ottawa blockade; the Islamophobic or anti-Muslim views reportedly espoused by blockade leaders such as [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]; and references to Canada having drifted from its Christian foundation suggest that some organizers and supporters of the Ottawa blockade may be motivated by ideologies that include accelerationism; white nationalism; white supremacy; Islamophobia; anti-Semitism, and anti-immigrant sentiments.

Ongoing protests and blockades will almost certainly occur for the foreseeable future. The current civil disobedience is reflective of a decentralized anti-government and anti-authority movement across Canada that formed prior to the onset of COVID-19, and for which pandemic restrictions provided a means for its various elements to unite under the banner of a common grievance. The statements by various blockade organizers and supporters about the current situation being “just the beginning” should be taken at face value.

The situation in Ontario remains volatile. Protestors and their supporters are unlikely to be significantly deterred by any invocation of the Emergencies Act. The potential for conflict or an act of violence is likely increasing as the Ottawa blockade continues. Local solidarity protests are highly likely to continue. The possibility of an act of mischief against strategic targets should not be discounted.

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Appendix: Anticipated Events

OTTAWA			
CURRENT SITUATION - OTTAWA			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - OTTAWA			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
15 Feb 22 to 18 Feb 22	0700 hrs	Freedom Convoy 2022 Fort McMurray	• Convoy from Fort McMurray to Ottawa from 2022/02/15 to 2022/02/18. • Organizers appear to be [REDACTED] Edmonton, Lloydminster, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Kenora, Thunder Bay, Sault Sainte Marie, Sudbury, and Ottawa.

TORONTO - QUEEN'S PARK			
CURRENT SITUATION - TORONTO			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - TORONTO			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1200 hrs	The Line Canada	Calling for "all individuals and organizations that oppose mandatory vaccinations are encouraged to attend"

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NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
CURRENT SITUATION - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022	"They have closed Sarnia and Windsor. The next step is the Peace Bridge/ Queenston-Lewiston slow roll/blockade." Indication is that it is a peaceful protest and no violence will be tolerated.

QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE (NIAGARA ON THE LAKE)			
CURRENT SITUATION - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022	"Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022" group with mention of a potential convoy to take the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge on Feb 19th 2022. No further information.

CORNWALL POE			
CURRENT SITUATION - CORNWALL POE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - CORNWALL POE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	U/K	Cornwall PS advising of possible protest on 19 Feb 22

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OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Coutts, AB	Chris SKY	██████████ aka Chris SKY attending Coutts AB with fuel and water
1030 hrs	Haldimand-Norfolk	Freedom Across Canada Together	"local awareness exercise for Canada"
1400 hrs	Hamilton	Freedom of Choice Rally	estimated 50-200 persons attending
OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Nipigon	Nipigon Bridge POE	Protest was scheduled for 13 Feb 2022 has been rescheduled for 26 Feb 2022
OTHER EVENTS - UNKNOWN DATE			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Thunder Bay	Canada Unity - Operation BearHug Canada	"ThunderBay officially joined in the fun and has launched #BearHugCanada today... Strategic bridges, border crossings - 1000 tractors/farmers going to a border crossing with 5000 semis and personal vehicles." Post states it "has the potential of being another Windsor or Coutes".

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Date:	15 February 2022	

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